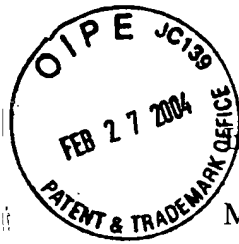


03500.015453.2

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re Application of:)
MASAHIKO KUBOTA, et al.)
Examiner: L. Liang)
Group Art Unit: 2853)
Application No.: 10/646,700)
Filed: August 25, 2003)
For: SOLID SEMICONDUCTOR)
ELEMENT, INK TANK,)
INK JET RECORDING)
APPARATUS PROVIDED)
WITH INK TANK, LIQUID)
INFORMATION ACQUIRING)
METHOD AND LIQUID)
PHYSICAL PROPERTY CHANGE : February 26, 2004
DISCRIMINATING METHOD)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to PCT/WO 97/28001, a copy of which is enclosed and which is listed on the attached form PTO-1449.

This document was cited during prosecution of a Singapore patent application corresponding to the above U.S. application. A copy of the Search Report from the Austrian Patent Office (apparently done on behalf of the Singapore Registry of Patents) is enclosed.

Other documents cited in the Search Report have been cited in the Information Disclosure Statement dated September 30, 2003 and August 22, 2003.

Inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action on the merits, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3).

The Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialling the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 32622

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-2200
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

CA_MAIN 77675 v 1

FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)		ATTY DOCKET NO. 03500.015453.2	APPLICATION NO. 10/646,700	
		APPLICANT Masahiko Kubota, et al.		
		FILING DATE August 25, 2003		GROUP 2853

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT	
	97/28001	8/7/97	PCT/WO			Abstract	

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
----------	-----------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of form with next communication to applicant.